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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q68137

Kenji TSUKADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 10/031,408

Group Art Unit: 2853

Confirmation No.: 2132

Examiner: Leonard S. Liang

Filed: January 18, 2002

For: INK CONSUMPTION DETECTING METHOD, AND INK JET RECORDING APPARATUS

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document which is listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No.: 10/031,408

Attorney Docket No.: Q68137

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit English Abstracts for documents that do not already have a concise explanation attached.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE

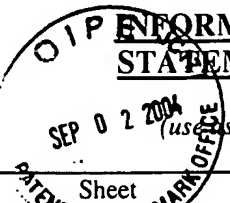
**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: September 2, 2004

The PTO did not receive the following  
listed item(s) EP 0956964

MODIFIED PTO/SB/08 A & B (06-03)

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO <u>4 APP NPLS</u>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	10/031,408
		Confirmation Number	2132
		Filing Date	January 18, 2002
		First Named Inventor	Kenji TSUKADA
		Art Unit	2853
		Examiner Name	Leonard S. Liang
		Attorney Docket Number	Q68137
Sheet	1	of	3

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US 6,361,136		03/26/02	Watanabe et al.
		US 4,310,957		01/19/82	Sachs
		US 4,935,751		06/19/90	Hamlin
		US 5,068,836		11/26/91	Steel
		US 5,610,635		03/11/97	Murray
		US 5,635,961		06/03/97	Sato
		US 6,024,429		02/15/00	Coffy et al.
		US 6,155,664		12/05/00	Cook
		US 6,435,638		08/20/02	Wilson

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	0885731		12/23/98		
		EP	0803365		10/29/97		
		CN	1274645		11/29/00		
		JP	2000-43287		02/15/00		
		JP	56-39413		04/15/81	Ota	
		JP	10-323997		12/08/98		
		JP	11-277760		10/12/99		
		JP	11-334107		12/07/99	Nakamura	
		JP	4-234670		08/24/92		
		JP	5-318757		12/03/93		
		JP	8-34123		02/06/96		
		JP	62-184856		08/13/87		
		EP	0860284		08/26/98		

### NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		US 2002-0170353, November 21, 2002, US 10/191423, Usui et al.	
		US 2003-0043216, March 6, 2003, US 10/243730, Usui et al.	
		US 2003-0117450, June 26, 2003, Usui et al.	
		US 2003-0117451, June 26, 2003, Usui et al.	
		US 2003-0140694, July 31, 2003, US 09/572849, Usui et al.	
		US 2003-0071862, US 10/019682, Tsukada et al.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/031,408
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b> (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Confirmation Number	2132
				Filing Date	January 18, 2002
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				Art Unit	2853
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Sheet 2 of 3				Attorney Docket Number	Q68137

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		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		EP	0956964	11/17/99			
		JP	07-137276	05/30/95			
		JP	11020188				
		JP	56-061421		10/17/84		
		JP	59-052422		04/06/84		
		JP	1-067530		05/01/89		
		JP	5-025325		04/02/93		
		JP	2000-190523		07/11/00		
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		JP	56-53078		05/12/81		
		JP	58-201027		11/22/83		
		JP	63-295266		12/01/88		

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		US 2002-0135623, September 26, 2002, Tsukada et al.	
		US 2002-0015068, February 7, 2002, Tsukada et al.	

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

3

of

3

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		Country Code <sup>2</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>3</sup> (if known)			
		JP	10-038662		02/13/98		
		JP	10-151753		06/09/98		
		JP	11-048490		02/23/99		
		JP	3-038037		02/15/91		
		JP	3-211907		09/17/91		
		JP	3-218847		09/26/91		
		JP	6-155762		06/03/94		
		JP	9-020013		01/21/97		
		JP	9-029991		02/04/97		
		JP	9-039263		02/10/97		
		JP	9-220216		08/26/97		
		JP	9-267488		10/14/97		

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